

PART II

LAND USE SURVEY AND ANALYSIS

ACCESS AND NATURAL FEATURES

The Maiden Planning Area is situated near the southern boundary of Catawba County, almost in the center of the southern portion of the county. Part of the one-mile planning perimeter falls in Lincoln County due to the nearness of the Catawba-Lincoln Line and the southernmost town limits. (Map 2.)

Maiden is directly served by US 321 as it cuts across the western Piedmont part of North Carolina from South Carolina and leads across the Blue Ridge Mountains into Tennessee. The nearest larger cities on this route are Hickory to the north of Maiden (via Newton and Conover) and Gastonia to the south. The nearest other major highway is NC 16 which runs about eight miles east of Maiden, connecting Charlotte with Newton, Conover and points north. Both of these roads intersect with the Statesville to Hickory portion of Interstate 40 which is now partially complete.

The planning area terrain is from fairly flat to rolling, with most of the steep land located along the banks of streams immediately to the north, west and south of the central part of town. The larger streams are Maiden Creek, which flows generally from east to west, and Clarks Creek which flows from north to south in the western quarter of the planning area. The town's water supply comes from an impoundment on a tributary of Maiden